

**Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
October 8, 2009
Minutes**

Attendees: Shamim Patwa, Vice-Chair, Dudley Hamlin, Martha Kelly, Mark LaPlaca, Min Lin, Katherine Paulhus, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin.
Absent: Mary Feathers, Chris Kueffner, Min Lin, Carrie Silver-Bernstein

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by Ms. Patwa, Vice-Chair

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

COMMUNICATIONS: The Board received an email from Ann and Patrick Ryan in support of the German exchange program.

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: **MOTION** by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Mr. LaPlaca to add Teacher of Year to the Committee Reports. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Ms. Lin arrived at 7:35pm.

MOTION by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus to add student discipline issue to the Superintendent's report. **VOTE:** Unanimous.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Teacher of Year (TOY) committee: Mrs. Paulhus suggested ways to promote Mansfield's Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Kelly, TOY committee member will discuss ideas with Rachel Leclerc, Chair of TOY committee.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- One School/One Read: Linda Robinson and Jeff Cryan discussed the selection of the book and activities that will occur in March at the Middle School.

Ms. Silver-Bernstein arrived at 7:40pm.

- Library Software Update: Mrs. Robinson provided a history of Mansfield School Libraries Online Catalog System and reported that she will be exploring new options due to changes in the current system.
- Geno's Reading Incentive: Mrs. Robinson reported that all three elementary schools will be participating in this program sponsored by Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS).
- iParent Network: Ruth Freeman and Barbara Casey discussed this program available to Ashford, Mansfield, and Willington parents.
- Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP): Mr. Baruzzi reported that the district did not make AYP in one subcategory.
- Board Fall Retreat Reschedule: The Board decided to reschedule the cancelled September Retreat to Thursday, November 19, 2009.
- Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education Update: Mr. Baruzzi reported that a new section has been added to the Monthly Update entitled Monthly Memorable Moments.
- Enhancing Student Achievement: Six projects were reviewed and will be implemented at the schools in support of this activity.
- Class Size/Student Enrollment: Mr. Baruzzi reported on the class sizes at each school noting number of classes above/below class size guidelines.
- Student Discipline: Mr. Baruzzi asked for an Executive Session on Monday, October 19, 2009 at 6:00pm at Mansfield Middle School to discuss a student discipline issue.

NEW BUSINESS: **MOTION** by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Mr. Hamlin that the minutes of the September 10, 2009 be moved from the Consent Agenda. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor. **MOTION** by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded by Mr. Hamlin to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2009 minutes. Discussion followed noting that Ms. Patwa and Ms. Silver-Bernstein's arrival times were not noted. **MOTION** by Mrs. Paulhus, seconded by Mrs. Kelly to accept the minutes as amended. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA: **MOTION** by Mr. LaPlaca, seconded Mr. Hamlin that the following item for the Board of Education meeting of October 8, 2009 be approved or received for the record: **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the increase in salary, retroactive to the start of the school year as outlined in the current contract between the Mansfield Board of Education and the Mansfield Education Association for Julie Brennan to 6th Year, Step 6; Lisa Hart to MA, Step 9, and Julie Ratajczak to 6th Year Step 8.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the request of Julie Brennan for maternity and unpaid childrearing leave from approximately January 9, 2010 through the end of the school year.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the request of Erika LaBella for personal leave beginning approximately December 1, 2009 for 10 school weeks.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: None

MOTION by Mrs. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Lin to adjourn at 9:30pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk